

THE INTERNATIONAL CAT ASSOCIATION
1996 Annual Board Meeting
Hartford, Connecticut
August 28-30, 1996

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, August 28, 1996, at 8:40 AM. The following members were present:

Georgia Morgan, President, Connie Zimmerman, Vice President, Cheiko Ohira, Director, Asia, Dewane Barnes, Director, Great Lakes, Edith Mary Smith, Director, Great Plains, Resa Bauer-DeMeyere, Director, Northwest, Sue Servies, Director, Mid Pacific, Jorge Cuellar, Director, South America, Don Caruthers, Director, South Central, Frances Young, Director, Southeast, Bob Mullen, Director, Southwest, Larry Paul, Legal Advisor.

Aline Noel, Director, Southern Europe, and Connie Webb, Director, Mid Atlantic arrived soon after.

Tord Svenson, Director, Northeast, and Juan de la Cruz, Director, Northern Europe, were not present.

1. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that voting at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors be accomplished by roll call for each motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to correct the minutes of the 1996 Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes as listed below:

Motion was made and duly seconded to deny the proposal to instruct the Feline Legislative Standing Committee to pay special attention to efforts being made by Animal Rights organizations to ban the ownership and breeding of Bengals in certain states and/or countries. Motion carried with Webb and Zimmerman opposed because it only addresses the Bengals and needs to be brought up at the annual.

Motion was made and duly seconded to keep Belgium in the Northern Europe Region. Motion carried with Webb opposed because she felt they should not be kept in a region they did not want to be in.

Unanimous consent to table corrections of the 1996 Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes by the Vice President until she has a chance to look over the corrections.

Unanimous consent that it be noted in the minutes of the 1996 Semi-Annual Meeting that Japan be allowed to submit a proposal for the 1998 Semi-Annual Meeting.

{Executive Session}

Unanimous consent to deviate from the agenda to discuss the Siberian breed.

11. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded to accept the Siberian and the standard as presented for championship as of 5/1/97. Motion carried with Ohira opposed.

12. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded to accept the corrections to the minutes of the 1996 Semi-Annual Meeting as listed below. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made and duly seconded to advance Connie Webb to Approved Allbreed Judge. Motion carried with Zimmerman abstaining.

Motion was made and duly seconded to charge a \$10 additional fee for any electronic registration. Motion carried with Webb and Zimmerman opposed.

Motion was made and duly seconded to charge a \$10 additional fee for any electronic registration. Motion carried with Webb and Zimmerman opposed.

Motion was made and duly seconded to charge a \$10 additional fee for any electronic registration for the US and Canada. Motion carried with Webb and Zimmerman opposed.

Motion was made and duly seconded to accept the amendment to ARTICLE V, Section 1 of the By-Laws: The Board of Directors shall be comprised of a President, a Vice President, a Treasurer and Regional Directors and Section 2.a.: The President, Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected by the membership at large to serve a term of 3 years or until a successor is duly elected. Motion denied with Zimmerman in favor and Cruz abstaining.

Motion was made and duly seconded to take no action on the change to By-Laws, ARTICLE VII, Section 1: Duties of the President, Vice President and Treasurer: c. Duties of the Treasurer: The Treasurer shall keep and maintain or cause to be maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, adequate and correct accounts of the properties and business transactions of TICA, including accounts of its assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains, losses, capital and earnings (or surplus), assist and advise in the preparation of budgets and financial planning. The books of account shall at all reasonable times be open to inspection by any director. The Treasurer shall render to the president and directors, whenever they request it, an account of all the transactions and of the financial condition of TICA. The Treasurer shall cause to be published in the TICA TREND, annually a financial statement of TICA. Motion carried with Zimmerman opposed.

13. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded that the Board accept changes to the minutes of the 1996 Semi-Annual Meeting as listed below with "Zimmerman" ONLY in the changes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve Christina Unangst into the Household Pet Judging Program. Motion denied with Zimmerman abstaining.

Motion was made and duly seconded that in light of the fact that we are already moving in the direction of providing statistics, the proposal that the Computerization Committee investigate some way that the Executive Office can provide the Board and the membership with specific data regarding registration statistics be denied. Motion carried with Zimmerman opposed.

Unanimous consent to take the Protocols On Procedure for Animal Abuse, Cruelty and Neglect Complaints off the table. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

14. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that the Feline Welfare Standing Committee files the protest and orders the hearing in cases of abuse, cruelty, or neglect. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to remove the Feline Infectious Disease Brochure verbiage from the agenda and to move the TICA TREND proposal from Jack Swan to the appropriate place in the agenda where all of the proposals will be considered.

The Feline Infectious Disease Brochure has been placed on the TICA Worldwide Web Site.

Unanimous consent to place the following on the membership ballot:

Change the TICA By-Laws, ARTICLE V, Section 4.c. to read: New breeds, both Registration Only Breeds and Category V Breeds, will be represented by a Provisional Working Group Chairperson as set out in Registration Rules, ARTICLE III, Section. 2.

>>>>MEMBERSHIP BALLOT<<<<<

Unanimous consent to defer consideration of By-Laws, ARTICLE XII, Section 3 until Legal Council has a chance to read it.

Unanimous consent to defer consideration of the feasibility study by the Finance Standing Committee until the Finance Standing Committee Report.

Unanimous consent to place the following on the membership ballot:

Add to the By-Laws, ARTICLE XX, Section 1. The Association shall present annual awards to the winning cats, kittens, alters, household pets and household pet kittens.

>>>>MEMBERSHIP BALLOT<<<<<

Unanimous consent to defer consideration of the report from Larry Hart until the Computer Standing Committee Report. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

Unanimous consent to drop the DHL report from the agenda.

Unanimous consent to defer consideration of the Entry Clerking Program until the Computer Standing Committee Report.

15. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded that the change to Show Rule 16.5 below not be put to the membership for vote. Motion denied with Zimmerman, Barnes, Smith, and Noel in favor.

Add the following to Show Rule 16.5: If a cat has bitten a judge in a show and the judge required any medical attention, the following shall apply thereafter: The owner of the biting cat shall be liable for all medical costs. The owner shall either directly pay all such costs, or reimburse the judge for expenses to be paid within 30 days of being billed. If an owner of a cat which has bitten a judge fails to comply with this rule, the judge may notify the TICA Executive Office of such incident and failure to comply, and upon such notification, any points accumulated by that cat during the show in which the incident occurred, shall not be applied to any title, regional or international award. Judges shall in writing, notify the Executive Office of any cat biting incident, which occurs during the judge's handling of an entry, which requires first aid or medical treatment. The Executive Office shall forward a copy of the notification to the owner. After three reported incidents and notifications the cat will no longer be eligible for entry into any TICA recognized show. Any points accrued after the date of the third official notification from the Executive Office will not be scored for titles or regional or international awards. Motion carried with Young opposed.

Unanimous consent to table Show Rule 16.5 until morning. (See Motion 41.)

Barnes noted that Board Ballot #96-02 concerning the Site of the 1999 Annual was NOT valid as it was a reconsideration of a motion at the 1996 Semi-Annual Meeting and could only be handled on the day of the motion or the next day.

16. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded to negate the motion giving Mississippi Cat Fanciers the Annual in 1999. Motion denied with Zimmerman, Servies, Mullen, Smith and Noel in favor.

17. Motion was made by Mullen and duly seconded that the Vice President be paid for 2 additional nights of hotel expense in Brussels, Belgium for a total of \$168.44. Motion carried with Young opposed and Zimmerman abstaining.

Unanimous consent for the Annual Awards Report.

Unanimous consent for the License Fees Report, the Insurance Report, the Membership Report, and the Bad Debt Report.

Unanimous consent for the Active Club Reports.

The President appointed Vickie Fisher as Chair of the Finance Standing Committee as Bill Becker had asked to be rotated off the committee.

The President appointed Vicki Jo Harrison as the Feline Welfare Standing Committee.

The President appointed Tony Cuciniello to the Marketing and Advertising Standing Committee.

The President appointed Nancy Welch to the Feline Welfare Legislation Standing Committee.

The President appointed Claire Fox to the Fund Raising Standing Committee.

The President appointed Colin Pearson, David Zabel and Larry Levy to the Electronics Communications Standing Committee. When resumes are received in the Executive Office, their names will added to the standing committee list.

The President appointed Elayne Early to the Household Pet Standing Committee.

Barnes reported on the 1997 Semi-Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL.

Mullen reported on the 1997 Annual to be held by WE BE KATZ in California. Later, Armando Camarena reported on progress for the Annual.

18. Motion was made by Bauer-DeMeyere and duly seconded to award the 1998 Semi-Annual Meeting to the Tokyo Cat Club. Motion carried with Servies abstaining.

Unanimous consent for approval for the 1998 Semi-Annual Meeting to be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with a show on the weekend.

Caruthers reported on the 1998 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. The Mission City Cat Club has contracted with the historic Menger Hotel as the official show hotel and banquet awards site. They will be contracting approximately 50,000 square feet of the north exhibit hall of the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center. The Menger Hotel and the show hall are within 2 blocks walking distance of each other. The club is planning a Friday Night River Barge Dinner to be catered by a local River Walk restaurant. Pamphlets on San Antonio and the Menger Hotel were distributed to the Board.

Unanimous consent for the Violation of Rules Protest Form with a disclaimer that it does not apply to the Feline Welfare Standing Committee protests.

19. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that protests filed by the Feline Welfare Standing Committee be exempt from the filing fee as noted in the Standing Rules to the By-Laws and Show Rules. Motion carried unanimously.

}}}}STANDING RULES TO THE SHOW RULES/ BY-LAWS{ { { { {

20. Motion was made by Young and duly seconded that the return date shown in ARTICLE X, Section 2.a. of the TICA By-Laws be changed to 30 days. Motion denied with Young, Webb, Cuellar, and Ohira in favor.

Unanimous consent for further consideration of the qualifications for voting members of the breed sections to be deferred until the proposal from Mary Haffner is considered. (See Motion 66.)

Unanimous consent to have Tom Hawkins of Kessler Financial Services present at 2PM on Thursday for a presentation on the affinity services/credit card program.

The President reported on the "World Congress of Cat Associations", a conference she attended in May, 1996. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

Unanimous consent for acceptance of the President's Report on the "World Congress of Cat Associations".

Unanimous consent for Leslie Lyons to give a report at 4PM on Thursday.

21. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that Cathy Welch be appointed the new TICA TREND Editor. Motion carried with Mullen opposed.

22. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded that the effective date for the contract for the TICA TREND Editor to begin on November 18, 1996 to run for 2 years with written notice of 120 days for either party to cancel the contract. Motion carried unanimously.

23. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that we accept the New Breed and Color Packet based on current Registration Rules. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent for the issue of non-domestic cats to be deferred until Friday.

24. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that we assess a \$15 fee for any complaint sent to the Executive Office and furnished to the Feline Welfare Standing Committee. Motion carried with Zimmerman opposed.

25. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded that effective immediately all cats to be individually registered must present pedigrees certified by another association. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to add to the Standing Rules to the Show Rules:

UNREGISTERED CATS - May be shown only once in TICA without a registration number. All points and/or wins for titles and/or Annual Awards acquired by an unregistered cat, kitten, alter, or household pet adult in the second and/or subsequent shows shall be irrevocably lost. The exhibitor is obligated to furnish the registration number to the entry clerk or master clerk and the Executive Office. In order to obtain credit for any points and/or wins received at the first show where the cat was shown as unregistered, the owner must notify the Executive Office in writing requesting the first show be credited and stating the name, date and location of the show, and the name, breed (if applicable), registration number, and the entry number. For purposes of this rule, back to back shows held on the same weekend as the first show shall be considered the same as the "First Show".

}}}}STANDING RULES TO THE SHOW RULES{ { { { {

Unanimous consent to add to the Standing Rules for the Scoring System:

In order for a cat/kitten to be eligible for a regional award, it must be shown at least once in that region. An exception will be made in the case of kittens and household pet kittens in that a show as an adult will fill the requirement that they be shown one time in the region. Until the Great Plains region is more firmly established the members will be exempted from the requirement that cats must be shown at least once in the region of their residence in order to be scored for awards.

}}}} }STANDING RULES FOR THE SCORING SYSTEM{{{

Unanimous consent to recess until 9AM on Thursday.

The meeting was called to order by the President on Thursday, August 29, 1996 at 9:02AM.

Unanimous consent to seat Solveig Pflueger as Northeast Regional Director per request of Tord Svenson in accordance with the TICA By-Laws, ARTICLE IX, Section 2.g.

Motion was made by Bauer-DeMeyere and duly seconded to change Show Rule 16.5 to read: If a cat has bitten a judge in a show and the judge required any medical attention, the following shall apply thereafter: The owner of the biting cat shall be liable for all medical costs. The owner shall either directly pay all such costs, or reimburse the judge for expenses to be paid within 30 days of being billed. If an owner of a cat which has bitten a judge fails to comply with this rule, the judge may notify the TICA Executive Office of such incident and failure to comply, and upon such notification, any points accumulated by that cat during the show in which the incident occurred, shall not be applied to any title, regional or international award. Judges may in writing, notify the Executive Office of any cat biting incident, which occurs during the judge's handling of an entry, which requires first aid or medical treatment. The Executive Office shall forward a copy of the notification to the owner. Notwithstanding the above any points accrued after the date of the third official notification from the Executive Office will not be scored for titles or regional or international awards. (See Motion 41.)

Unanimous consent to table until wording is reviewed.

{Executive Session}

Unanimous consent for lunch to be from 12:30PM to 1:30PM.

40. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded that the Judging Administrator be instructed that she must send applications for the Judging Program by First Class Mail and FAX, if available, for international applicants and not by e-mail. Motion carried unanimously.

Bauer-DeMeyere presented the Feline Welfare Standing Committee Report. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

Zimmerman read the Finance Standing Committee Report from Bill Becker to include a letter from Vickie Fisher concerning recommendations on awards and license fees. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES. The President stated at this time, that Vickie Fisher had called her and stated that if she were appointed chair, in the immediate future, she would be interviewing each Board Member for what they expect of the committee.

Unanimous consent for a recommendation that Vickie Fisher present these recommendations and goals at the 1997 Semi-Annual Meeting.

Unanimous consent to go into a Committee of the Whole for Tom Fox to speak as a member of the Finance Committee. Tom felt the association should be looking at ways to grow rather than ways to decrease costs and he really felt that the standing committees should be working together and looking at the big picture with the Board Liaisons pushing the committees in that direction.

Unanimous consent to return to the agenda.

Laurie Schiff presented the Feline Welfare Legislation Standing Committee Report with a specific request that each Regional Director appoint someone in their region to be able to coordinate with her on legislation in their area. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

Unanimous consent for a budget of \$500 for the Feline Welfare Legislative Standing Committee to be reimbursed upon receipt of vouchers and request for reimbursement.

41. Motion was made and duly seconded to add 16.5 to the Show Rules as follows: If a cat bites a judge during a show and the judge files a written complaint with the Executive Office, the owner of said cat shall be responsible for all unreimbursable medical expense. All expenses must be paid within the 30 days from date of receipt of the judge's medical bill by the owner. If the expenses are not paid and the judge files notice of same with the Executive Office, no points may be allowed from that show toward titles or awards. Notwithstanding the above, after the third notification of a biting incident, that cat may no longer accrue points toward titles or awards. Motion carried unanimously.

> > > > MEMBERSHIP BALLOT < < < <

Unanimous consent for the appointments of Sue Pannell as Assistant Judging Administrator and Robert Forte as Assistant European Judging Administrator.

Unanimous consent for the Show Management Packet presented by the Membership Affairs Standing Committee to be reviewed by the Publications Standing Committee.

Unanimous consent for the New Members Packet presented by the Membership Affairs Standing Committee to be referred to the Publications Standing Committee.

Unanimous consent for the Board to accept the Membership Affairs Standing Committee Report and to inform the committee that it is the policy of the association to avoid becoming involved in disputes between members and therefore the Membership Affairs Standing Committee should NOT act as a go between for problems between members. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

Unanimous consent for Bob Mullen and Edith Mary Smith to rewrite the Standing Rules to the Membership Affairs Standing Committee.

Unanimous consent for the Membership Affairs Standing Committee be changed to the Membership Standing Committee.

Tom Hawkins presented the MBNA Credit Card proposal for Kessler Financial Services.

42. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded to accept the MBNA Bank Card proposal. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to request that the Executive Office maintain a separate entry for the proceeds from the credit card program just approved, as a separate ledger item.

Pat Harding presented the Foreign Affairs Standing Committee Report. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

The President appointed Kurt Vlach as the contact representative for coordination of show dates between TICA and other associations in Europe.

Ohira reported that the Clerking Manual is now translated into Japanese.

43. Motion was made by Bauer-DeMeyere and duly seconded to appoint Sandy Byrne as the remaining member of the American Curl Breed Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to appoint Phyllis Hill to the Havana Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Beverly Goss, Elaine Gracyalny-Clinton, Margretta Wolfe and Ingrid Reiniger to the Himalayan Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Madeline Lovelace to the Korat Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Elaine Gracyalny-Clinton to the Persian Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Vicki Jo Harrison and June Colewell to the Siamese Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Dorothy Johnston to the Singapura Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Helen Pounds to the Snowshoe Breed Committee.

Unanimous consent to appoint Solveig Pflueger as working group breed chairperson of the Ojos Azules.

44. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded to accept the Household Pet Judging Program as listed below:

18.9 (new) The apprentice shall apply to the Judging Administrator for licensing as a Probationary Specialty Household Pet Judge.

18.10 A license fee of \$15 shall be sent to the Executive Office before advancement.

18.11 The Probationary Specialty Household Pet Judge may apply to the Judging Administrator for advancement to Approved Household Pet Judge after judging HHP shows as a probationary specialty household pet judge.

18.12 A license fee of \$20 shall be sent to the Executive Office before advancement.

18.13. The complete original HHP application for advancement must be sent to the Judging Administrator (remainder of 18.9).

Renumber old 18.11 to 18.14, old 18.12 to 18.15, old 18.13 to 18.16. Motion carried unanimously.

45. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded to remove Dick Wells and Alex de Guzman from the Judging Program with no penalties for reapplying in the future. Motion carried unanimously.

46. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded that the mink and sepia Persian-type Longhair be classified as the Persian cat, effective immediately. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to authorize the Judging Administrator to put the TICA standards on the web site.

Unanimous consent to authorize the Executive Office to send the diskette of the standards to the Judging Administrator.

Unanimous consent to authorize the Judging Administrator to put the Judging Program on the web site.

Unanimous consent to authorize the Executive Office to send a diskette of the Judging Program to the Judging Administrator.

Unanimous consent to add the following to the judging Program: If a judge is asked to judge for another association s/he must contact the Judging Administrator for permission to judge. In the case of a request from a country where TICA clubs are active, the Judging Administrator may grant permission to judge for another association only after ascertaining that the show will be a traditional show with no American style rings.

Leslie Lyons was unable to attend. Solveig Pflueger presented her report.

Unanimous consent to recess until 9AM on Friday.

The President called the meeting to order on Friday, August 30, 1996, at 9:06AM.

Unanimous consent to deviate from the agenda for Erika Kay to address the Board concerning the Sterlings.

No Computer Standing Committee Report was received or presented.

Unanimous consent for Pam Richcreek to video the Board briefly during the meeting.

Unanimous consent to go into a committee of whole for Tom Fox to speak to the Board. Tom was adamant about the unfavorable, untrue and totally negative comments on e-mail for the whole world to see, some of them made by elected and appointed officials of the association. He asked that an effort be made to place in the By-Laws or use the disciplinary section of the By-Laws to sanction any comments made on e-mail that are "not in the best interests of the association" by any elected or appointed official.

47. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded that we notify Larry Hart that the Board does not want an Entry Clerking Program that is in DOS. Motion denied with Zimmerman, Servies, Smith, Bauer-DeMeyere and Ohira in favor.

48. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded to amend the previous motion to include that it be written in both DOS and Windows. Motion carried with Zimmerman, Servies, Mullen, Smith, Bauer-DeMeyere and Ohira opposed.

49. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded that we negotiate a contract with Larry Hart for an Entry Clerking Program that must be in DOS and Windows by May 1, 1997. Motion carried unanimously.

50. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded to purchase a new 586 Pentium computer with an Intel motherboard immediately in order to use the DAR program on a regular basis. Motion carried unanimously.

The Business Manager presented a detailed report on the copy of an e-mail message from Tom McCartney, Computer Standing Committee Chair.

51. Motion was made by Young and duly seconded to add the following to the By-Laws, ARTICLE XXII, Section 3: Show Protests. Protests charging misconduct or violation of the rules of the association, arising in connection with a show, shall be submitted in writing with any evidence and a \$25 filing fee, to the Show Committee within 10 working days following the completion of the show. If the protest is against the actions of the club, the show committee of the club, a member of the club or show committee, or production company, the protest can optionally be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Association, with the \$25 filing fee, to be handled by the Board of Directors pursuant to ARTICLE XXII, Section 2 of the By-Laws. A copy of the protest shall also be sent to the show committee. The Board of Directors shall commence action on the protest, pursuant to Section 2 of this article, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the protest in the Executive Office. These fees are non-refundable. The filing fees shall not apply to protests filed by the Feline Welfare Standing Committee in its abuse protocols. Motion carried unanimously.

> > > > MEMBERSHIP BALLOT < < < <

Unanimous consent to change the Judging Program, 6.1.a. Must have been a licensed Provisional Allbreed judge for at least 2 years and judged not less than 35 shows as such (35 LH and 35 SH or 35 AB or any combination thereof).

Unanimous consent that the Judging Program be corrected on page 19, paragraph 14: it should be 5 years **judging** experience.

The President asked for a Vote of Confidence for the Judging Administrator.

52. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded to purchase another computer for a total of two new computers. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent to accept the Chausie Breed Report.

53. Motion was made by Bauer-DeMeyere and duly seconded that the Board approve the Munchkin issue to be on the membership ballot as to whether it remains a registerable breed in the association. Motion denied with Bauer-DeMeyere in favor. Webb voted no because the petition failed to have the necessary number of signatures.

The President appointed Solveig Pflueger as Ojos Azules Working Group Chair.

54. Motion was made by Mullen and duly seconded to accept the Ojos Azules Report. Motion carried with Bauer-DeMeyere opposed.

55. Motion was made by Bauer-DeMeyere and duly seconded to revoke the NBC status of the Ojos Azules effective immediately. Motion denied with Barnes, Smith, Bauer-DeMeyere, and Webb in favor.

Unanimous consent to adopt the Snowshoe Report and to notify Hellen Pounds that a report is no longer necessary.

The Household Pet Standing Committee Report was given by Patti Andrews. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

56. Motion was made by Barnes and duly seconded that the Honors Award, donated by Chuck/Patti Andrews, be given to a club of their choosing this year and that in subsequent years the award be sponsored by the Household Pet Standing Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

57. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded to accept the new Pixiebob standard as corrected at this meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The President appointed Solveig Pflueger as the Genetics Committee Representative for the Pixiebob breed.

58. Motion was made by Pflueger and duly seconded that the following be placed on the ballot: Show Rule 1.59 to be changed to read: POLYDACTYL - A cat having more than 5 toes on the front foot or feet and more than 4 toes on the back foot or feet. Ineligible for championship competition except as specified in the breed standard. Motion carried with Bauer-DeMeyere abstaining.

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59. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded to accept the three divisions for the Ragdoll Breed. Motion failed unanimously.

60. Motion was made by Webb and duly seconded that the Ragdoll be permitted to be shown in three separate color divisions: solid, bicolor, and mitted. Motion died for lack of second.

61. Motion was made by Caruthers and duly seconded that the Ragdoll be separated into mitted and bicolor color classes and that it would be two divisions. Motion denied with Caruthers, Webb, Cuellar, Noel and Ohira in favor and Pflueger abstaining.

Unanimous consent to recess for lunch.

Unanimous consent to deviate from the agenda to consider the proposals from Mary Haffner.

Unanimous consent to table the changes to ARTICLE IV of the TICA By-Laws until after rewording.

62. Motion was made by Noel and duly seconded to appoint Ruben Robert to the Singapore Breed Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

63. Motion was made by Bauer-DeMeyere and duly seconded to change the standard for the Scottish Fold to include the pointed category. Motion denied with Pflueger abstaining.

Unanimous consent for the issue of acceptance of the pointed category to be sent to the entire Scottish Fold Voting Breed Section and readdressed at the 1997 Semi-Annual Meeting.

* * * * *ITEM FOR THE 1997 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING* * * * *

Unanimous consent to allow Laura Friis to speak to the Board about wild hybrids. Laura Friis read into record the personal opinion of Jill D. Mellen, Ph.D., Conservation Research Coordinator, Metro Washington Park Zoo. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

64. Motion was made by Pflueger and duly seconded to accept the Savannah for registration with the following provisions: Prior to accepting any f1 hybrid for registration proof of such hybridization must be provided. This shall take the form of genetic testing proving the f1 to be the product of the Serval and a domestic cat. Prior to application for advancement to NBC or other status, proof of viable f2 hybrids must be provided. Any Serval used in such a program must be owned by an individual with appropriate permits for housing non-domestic species. Motion denied with Pflueger in favor.

Unanimous consent to deviate from the agenda to discuss the TICA TREND.

A report on the TICA TREND was presented by Alice Rhea. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

A report on the poll in the TICA TREND was presented by Zimmerman. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

Unanimous consent for changing the Standing Rules to the By-Laws, X.A., to be consistent with the By-Laws.

Unanimous consent to thank Judy Kovic in the TICA TREND for her diligent work concerning the schedule activities of our TICA clubs. She has industriously tracked TICA's clubs and show dates and reported them to the various publications in order to keep TICA's show schedule highly visible and available to the public. Judy started this task when there was no clearinghouse for show dates and over the years has continued to keep this schedule for the association and its clubs with no reward or compensation.

The Clerking Report was presented by Dewane Barnes.

Unanimous consent to publish the list of clerks in every other TICA TREND.

65. Motion was made by Webb and duly seconded that when a club desires a show date from the Regional Director, they may request that date by certified mail. The Regional Director may only deny a show date if there is another show within a 300 kilometer or 200 mile radius. After 30 days, there being no response from the Regional Director, the club may proceed with the show date, scheduling it through the Executive Office by providing the Executive Office with a copy of the written request and a copy of the signed Receipt Requested Card. Motion carried with Noel absent.

66. Motion was made by Zimmerman and duly seconded to change the By-Laws, ARTICLE IV, Section 1. Breed Sections. A Breed Section shall be established for each breed and one or more sections for household pets. Each member shall automatically be eligible to apply to belong to one Breed Section as a part of his or her membership fee. Any member may belong to additional Breed Sections by applying for and by paying an additional fee. Section 2. Duties. Members of each Breed Section shall sponsor the breed and be responsible for developing a comprehensive standard for the breed, and proposing amendments and revisions of the standard for the breed. AND ARTICLE V, Section 4.a. The members of each Breed Section shall elect a Breed Committee to serve a term of 3 years or until a successor is duly elected. Requirements for election to breed committee membership as follows: Have a TICA registered cattery, Breed Section membership, have bred and registered...(remainder unchanged). Section 4.b. Qualifications: To be a member of a Breed Committee, a member shall submit proof of owning a feline of the applicable breed, breeding and/or showing at least one feline of the Breed Section applied for within 2 years preceding his or her application. This proof may be submitted by: 1) a copy of a registration showing ownership of a feline of that Breed, or 2) a copy of a litter registration for that Breed showing s/he has bred a litter of the breed, or 3) a copy of the preface page or front cover of a show catalog, showing the date of show and club name, and the page showing proof of the applicant's cat's competition in that show or 4) a copy of a regional or international award for a feline of the breed owned by the applicant. Application can be made at the time of application for membership, or at any later date. Exception: applicants for the Household Pet Breed Section shall not qualify for membership in that Section with proof of a litter registration. Section 4.c. No member shall be a member of more than three breed committees.

Motion carried with Barnes Caruthers and Cuellar opposed, and Noel, Pflueger and Ohira abstaining.

> > > > MEMBERSHIP BALLOT < < < <

Unanimous consent for the effective date of the previous motion to be 5/1/97.

Unanimous consent that the questions regarding the Russian Breeds be referred to the Genetics Committee to determine if the Russian cats recognized by the Select Feline Federation of Russia can be assigned to any of our present breeds.

67. Motion was made by Pflueger and duly seconded that TICA will register up to 100 of the cats from Russia for \$1 each as a one-time price right now with the paperwork to be provided before December 31, 1996. Motion carried unanimously.

Unanimous consent for Zimmerman to step down as Board Liaison for Feline Welfare Standing Committee.

The President appointed Resa Bauer-DeMeyere as the new Board Liaison to the Feline Welfare Standing Committee.

Unanimous consent to establish the Feline International Health Exchange Committee. The President appointed Claire Fox as the Feline International Health Exchange Committee Chair with a preliminary mission statement as follows: This committee will cooperate with other worldwide registering associations to exchange veterinarian literature, research information, symposium and other vital information pertaining to the common good of all cats.

Unanimous consent for affirmation that the first club that requests a show date is authorized to have the show.

The International Feline Foundation Report was given by Connie Zimmerman. The new officers are as follow: President/Chairman of the Board-Ralph Shelton, Vice President-Connie Zimmerman, Secretary-Karen McInchak, Treasurer-Ellen Crockett, with Laura Friis and Resa Bauer-DeMeyere as Members-at-Large, one veterinarian position to be filled.

Unanimous consent for the officers and directors of The International Feline Foundation to be commended on achieving tax-exempt status for the foundation, and further that, in order to protect the tax-exempt status, it be stated for the record that The International Feline Foundation and The International Cat Association are totally separate and independent entities and neither shall have any control of nor claim on any funds of the other, nor shall either in any way be liable to any third party on behalf of the other.

68. Motion was made by Mullen and duly seconded that the Vice President be reimbursed up to \$75 per month for expenses, payable upon receipt of vouchers, since January 1, 1996. Motion carried with Zimmerman abstaining and Young, Bauer-DeMeyere and Pflueger absent.

69. Motion was made by Mullen and duly seconded to allow a budget item of \$600 for the Vice President to travel to Russia in October of 1996. Motion carried with Zimmerman, Barnes, Young, Webb, and Cuellar abstaining and Bauer-DeMeyere and Pflueger absent.

70. Motion was made by Servies and duly seconded that the Board Members and the Officers have their rooms paid up to the amount of \$375 plus tax upon request with receipts. Motion carried with Pflueger abstaining and Cuellar and Noel absent.

71. Motion was made by Pflueger and duly seconded that effective 9/1/96 a moratorium is placed on registration of non-domestic feline species and/or cats of non-domestic ancestry where progeny of such cats have not been accepted for NBC or championship. Motion carried with Cuellar abstaining.

Unanimous consent that the Yearbook Editor be informed that twenty yearbooks will be furnished to the Executive Office each year for use in publicity and public relations and that twenty each of the 1994 and 1995 Yearbooks are to be shipped to the Executive Office immediately.

Unanimous consent to conduct an evaluation of breed status study to be conducted by Solveig Pflueger. ADDENDUM TO THE MINUTES.

{Executive Session}

Unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting.

PROTOCOLS ON PROCEDURE
FOR
ANIMAL ABUSE, CRUELTY AND NEGLECT COMPLAINTS

1. Written complaint received by Feline Welfare Chair.
2. Feline Welfare Chair confirms with Executive Office:
 - A. Is accused a current member of TICA?
 - B. Has accused registered litters/cats with TICA?
 - C. Has accused exhibited at TICA sanctioned shows?
 - D. Confirms that executive office records correspond with FW records as to whether accused is or is not participating in the TICA Responsible Breeder Program.
3. Notification:
 - A. Letter of acknowledgement sent to complaining party (petitioner).
 - B. Certified letter sent to accused party (defendant) notifying them of complaint filed, requesting a written response within 30 days. Include: copy of original complaint and copies of any documentation & copy of letter sent by FW to complainer/petitioner.
 - C. In the event a law enforcement agency, HSUS or city/county/state animal control is involved and has written eye witness testimony, video and/or photographs, these records requested in writing by the FW committee to be used as evidence at a possible hearing to be held at the next available TICA Board meeting.
 - D. In the event a court of law has determined the defendant is guilty or the defendant has plead guilty to animal abuse, neglect, or cruelty, then that court order is requested in writing by the FW Committee and will be presented at the TICA hearing as evidence.
4. Assume that response is received by defendant:
 - A. Copy of response sent to petitioner if indicated.
 - B. All copies furnished to the Board member liaison by the FW Committee.
 - C. In the event a rebuttal letter is received from the petitioner, it is also furnished to the Board liaison and the defendant.
5.
 - A. Consideration is given jointly by the FW Chair and the Board member liaison to all evidence in their possession.
 - B. TICA legal counsel is given all copies of documentation and the written recommendation from FW and the Board liaison.
 - C. If the preponderance of the evidence is against the defendant, as determined by the FW Chair, Board member liaison and TICA legal counsel, then a hearing is set. (FW files protest)
6. Notification to all parties:
 - A. The defendant is notified by certified mail, return receipt requested, that a hearing date and time has been set and the defendant and/or his/her representative is asked to appear. The defendant is furnished with all the evidence against him or her. Failure to respond is considered an admission of guilt.
 - B. When return receipt of certified letter from defendant is returned to FW Chair, petitioner is notified that a hearing has been set. As all evidence should at this time be documented, there is no need for petitioner to appear, although he/she may appear at hearing if desired.
7. Hearing held, determination made by TICA Board of Directors.
8. Defendant is notified in writing by the Executive Office of the decision by the Board. This letter sent certified.
9. Petitioner notified in writing by the Executive Office as to the outcome of the hearing. This letter sent certified.
10. The TICA membership, other cat associations, and other concerned parties are notified via the TICA TREND publication of the Board minutes.

On March 11, 1996, upon notification by the Executive Office that the Board wanted the DAR Program to be activated immediately, work on the Entry Clerking Program was interrupted and as the DAR Program was in early developmental stages, all efforts were applied toward getting it on-line. We had begun work on the DAR Program early in 1995 as a work in progress with no end date in sight but with the idea that one day the accounting in the Executive Office would be computerized. Understanding the way in which the incoming work was accomplished was an underlying task of each of the programs I had already designed for TICA so it was not a task on the top burner but was an on-going learning process for the programming done for the association. The DAR itself had already been designed with both the on-the-screen (menu-driven) and the output (printed) versions completed. The remaining responsibility to complete the program was the finishing of the programming details for reporting and ease of modifications/changes to codes utilized in the Executive Office, the designing of reports, and the reconciliation and audit trails for the meticulous reporting of data. The next step is the use of the program to test viability and user compatibility of the screens, codes, reports and the systems in general; this is a necessarily tedious task because an accounting program must have clearly defined audit trails built to ensure accuracy and precision as the basis for the data seen in the various reporting systems. The program is being tested/used/modified on a daily basis in the Executive Office to enter DAR's for July 1995-June 1996. As the analysis continues, modifications are made to increase ease of use or display of different screens and/or modification of reports when requested. This is the current status of the DAR Program.

In developing the Entry Clerking Program, we looked at the following items: The entering of information on cats; the correction/validation of that information; and the output of the information. The input of the information on the cats requires the screen to ask appropriate questions and then fill in the answers to suitable questions after initial responses are entered. The program was set up to "know the rules", i.e., if the cat is a solid color and pointed, then it has blue eyes, and belongs in the pointed category, solid division, etc. The ideal is to enter a cat and have a residual database that knows the cat and brings up the basic information on that cat. If the cat is not on file then it has a variable entry screen where those things that are inherent in a breed or a color would automatically be asked or filled in. The color list has been compiled and the program is able to know the allowable colors and the Executive Office will be able to modify/correct those allowable colors as required; the variables in the program allow it to be able to know the most about the breeds/colors and to have to enter the least amount of information. The output for the catalog and the judge's books is in development; i.e., the output for the information gathered by the Entry Clerk is the step that is in progress at this point. The next sequence will be the collection of the information entered by Entry Clerks for return to the Executive Office, i.e., the diskette provided by the club to the Executive Office and the use of that diskette to mark an "electronic" catalog (if not received already marked) and then electronically "score" that catalog. Subsequently that information, after validation and auditing for accuracy will be loaded into the Scoring Program already in use in the Executive Office.

In striving to complete the DAR Program and get back to the Entry Clerking Program, no work has been accomplished to "design and/or redesign the databases of the Executive Office". Obviously, no time was available to devote to this endeavor and no instructions have been discussed on the exact strategy for this design/redesign. I foresee no problem in executing this task, we simply have not begun it. On January 20, 1996, when I met with Georgia Morgan, Leslie Bowers, Frances Young, Fran Green and Tom McCartney at the Executive Office of TICA in Harlingen, Texas. Discussions centered around concerns Tom had recorded from different Board Members as follows:

Connie Zimmerman: wanted to know why the Scoring Program couldn't automatically print postcards to the owners of cats notifying them of titles. She also wanted the different programs to be hooked together in a manner where all data could be accessed by pulling up a cat or an owner.

Sue Servies: was concerned with scoring errors.

Patti Andrews: felt it took too long for the work to get out of the Executive Office.

Don Caruthers: was concerned that there had been no change in 15 years and felt that any changes should be in small increments.

Zimmerman, Svenson, Bauer-DeMeyere, and Mullen: asked for a report on the Entry Clerking Program.

The following concerns were addressed:

It was determined that the Scoring Program did not deal with anything that remotely applied to titles. Scoring points and title points are entirely different and it would be inappropriate to require the Scoring Program to perform this work. This would be an appropriate task for a confirmation program, when one is developed, which might use the information contained in the "marked" catalog discussed earlier.

Toward the end of the day discussion centered on the pulling together of all the databases in the office. It was discussed and I had thought understood by all, that from the very beginning, each of the various stand-alone programs were created with the intention of hooking them all together to talk to each other. However, up to now, this task had been suspended because of the inability of TICA to control the different variables in the showing, registering, and memberships, etc. TO EXPLAIN: The Membership Program has the following fields: Last Name, First Name, Address, City, State, Zip/Postal Code, Country. The Scoring Program's Owners Database has the same fields as does the Registration Program's Owners Database and the DAR Program's Database. It would seem fairly easy to have each program update when one of them updates, however, members are entered as individuals, i.e., John Doe, Jane Doe, etc. An examination of the owners listed in the Registration Program database will demonstrate that owners of cats may be John Doe, Jane Doe, John/Jane Doe, Jane/John Doe, J/J Doe, J Doe, John and Jane Doe, Jane and John Doe, J and J Doe, etc., etc., etc. There is nothing wrong with this; it is as it should be--different family members must be allowed to own or co-own whichever cats they wish and there are many instances where the same owners are listed under seven to ten different names. Cats are shown and put in the Scoring Program in much the same way--with owners names listed as differently as is possible. Where is the hook? Last Name? Address? Country? It was agreed that the programs

were performing the functions for which they were created and that perhaps they were far better as individual programs than as one bulky database. It was also agreed that the older programs could/should be updated. One of the ways to solve an updating of addresses problem might be a small program (either stand-alone or update to the membership program) that would allow the person inputting memberships to make a decision on updating other programs, i.e., L. Hart has a change of address in the membership program; after updating in membership is completed, the program looks at other databases for L. Hart; if it finds an L. Hart in another database, it requests a decision from the user on whether or not the address is to be changed in that database; this is an example of the beginning of a prototype for a program that might be used to update address changes in all databases in the Executive Office.

The Executive Office had no report on scoring errors referred to by Sue Servies. It was established that NO scoring errors had ever been linked to the Scoring Program itself but rather to the scoring process before the inputting of data or an error during the entering itself.

The computerization of the Executive Office has been painstakingly planned and prepared to work toward the final objective of full processing. However, as pointed out by Fran Green in her letter to the Executive Office: "A computer system can rarely be fully operational overnight, but rather must evolve over time. It appears that the various parts of TICA's system are coming together nicely...". The Executive Office has been evolving and continues to evolve on a scale consistent with good business practices that allow the work for which the office was established to continue in a timely manner while getting the data into programs which make the output more efficient and precise.

I did have a phone call from Tom McCartney on Sunday, May 5, 1996 after 8 PM. This was the FIRST time I had ever spoken with him on the phone; and although it was not a good time for any discussion, he was very insistent that the conversation continue. He instructed me to set the Executive Office up on E-mail. I asked for written confirmation by FAX and he promised that confirmation by Wednesday, May 8, 1996; I have never heard from him again. My instructions have always been in writing from the Executive Office and this policy has not changed.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

LARRY HART, Hart Industries, Inc.

Present at the Congress were: Mrs. Alva Uddin, President, FIFe and Chair of the Meeting
Mr. Craig Rothermel, President, CFA
Mrs. Georgia Morgan, President, TICA
Mrs. Anneliese Hackmann, President, WCF
Mrs. Penny Bydlinski, General Secretary, FIFe and taking the Minutes
Mr. H. D. Kellner, Secretary, WCF

Also in attendance were: Mr. Fabrice Calmes, Vice President, FIFe, Mr. Tom Dent, Administrative Manager, CFA, Mr. Ing. Filippo Farinelli, President, FFI, Mrs. Patrizia de Ferrari, Member, FIFe LO Commission and FFI Board, Mrs. Laura Burani, Secretary, FFI, Mrs. Diana Rothermel, Mrs. Shirley Dent, and Mrs. E. Kellner.

MISSION STATEMENT: The following statement was developed and accepted by the members of the congress as follows: The object of this congress is to work openly and honestly together in a spirit of co-operation to improve the health and welfare of all cats and encourage the sharing of resources to promote the interests and educate the participants of the cat fancy throughout the world.

PEDIGREE RECOGNITION: All of the participating organizations acknowledge that each presently recognizes the pedigrees of all of the participating organizations. However, each reserved the right to check that the pedigrees are correct. (TICA and CFA also recognize the following domestic registries, ACA, ACFA, CCA, CFF, UCF. Some of the organizations require that a five-generation pedigree be presented when requesting registration from another registering body. TICA does produce five-generation certified pedigrees when requested.

OPEN SHOWS: Commonly referred to as the "open-door" policy. All of the participating Associations or Federations would accept cats in their shows/exhibitions that are registered with any of the participating Associations, Federations, and independent groups. FIFe has agreed to provide the other Associations with a list of member clubs who are, or will be, complying either fully or partially with the open-door policy. (This open door policy is fairly new and was not a mandatory decision at their general assembly.) One of FIFe's requirements for show admission is verification that an exhibitor is a member in good standing with their own club, FIFe or otherwise. TICA and CFA agreed that this information is readily available through the Executive Office of TICA, or the Central Office of CFA. The congress agreed on the following joint communique: The members of the congress strongly urge all members to participate in the open show program for the welfare and good of cats.

COORDINATION OF SHOW DATES: Conflicting show dates is a mounting problem, both domestically and internationally. Concern for Europe was discussed at length with no logical conclusion, but all participants agreed that for the International level a central coordination point for show dates was perhaps the best way to avoid conflicting dates. However, the clubs should be encouraged to work on solving this problem at the local level, pending further study. **TICA SHOULD HAVE SOMEONE KNOWLEDGEABLE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SHOW SCENE TO COORDINATE SHOW DATES IN EUROPE** at this time. This should be someone familiar with all associations. **PERHAPS OUR INTERNATIONAL (FOREIGN) AFFAIRS CHAIRPERSON** could make a recommendation. Appointment to be announced later.

EXCHANGE OF JUDGES: The congress mutually agreed to allow for an exchange of judges between the Associations providing the inviting organization furnishes rules and standards to the invited judge. The invited judge is responsible for obtaining permission or authorization, IF required from their licensing Association, and abide by the rules in place.

HEALTH: The participants agreed that the organizations should share among themselves any relevant information which each might possess now or obtain in the future. Alva Uddin offered to act as the clearinghouse for collection and dissemination for this vital material. The congress agreed that it was desirable to establish International

symposiums on the "HEALTH OF CATS". However, further study is needed before the first symposium could actually be held. MY OPINION - I believe this to be a vital and beneficial endeavor to pursue.

LEGISLATION - GOVERNMENTAL: The congress agreed that it is necessary to keep legislative governmental bodies aware of the cat fancy's concern for the health and welfare of the cat, both through broad range initiatives at the organizational level and by ensuring that each organization's members also understand the necessity of giving the health and welfare of cats their highest priority. REMEMBER we have strength in numbers - UNITY. CFA has offered complete cooperation.

LICENSING: The opinion of the participants of the congress was that in cases in which licensing is required before one is allowed to become a breeder, that the licensing body should be encouraged to require that prospective breeder to meet a (to be established) level of education in merit. This encouragement of the local officials and education of prospective breeders could be provided by clubs who are seated in areas **WHERE LICENSING IS REQUIRED.**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 9, 10, 1997 in the Netherlands, subject to final arrangements being confirmed by Felikat.

GEORGIA MORGAN, President

FELINE WELFARE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Voluntary Code of Ethics Participants: 136, up from 82 reported at the Semi-Annual.
2. Outstanding Cattery Certificates Issued: 62 TICA catteries have completed the inspection and certification and have been awarded "Outstanding Cattery" certificates. 62 is up from 40 reported at the Semi-Annual.

*The Board's cooperation in publishing the Cattery Evaluation Form in the TICA TREND has really paid off. Both my office and the Executive Office received many requests for TICA Responsible Breeder Packets following that announcement.

3. In addition, the publication of those catteries participating has had a positive effect. I would like to continue the policy of publishing updates of participating catteries in the Trend three times per year.

4. Protocol On Animal Abuse, Neglect and Cruelty Complaints.

Proposed housekeeping changes:

Item 5. Section C. delete: FW Committee files protest; add: The TICA Board of Directors orders the hearing.

Item 6. Notification of all parties. The defendant is notified by the TICA Executive Office by certified mail.....

5. The Regio Gato Club of Monterrey, Mexico has a fabulous HHP adoption program. Since they began this policy they have adopted out to good homes, 256 cats and kittens. In the latest reported quarter, they adopted out 69 alone. Certainly, congratulations are in order to this TICA club!! M.V.Z. Ana Maria Sosa and the other club members of Regio Gato Club, deserve our highest accolades. Ana Maria reports that all kittens who are adopted out have been dewormed, spayed or neutered and given rabies vaccination.

6. The Voluntary Mentoring Breeder Program: The committee will be developing a network of experienced breeders, representing all TICA breeds, including those breeds in NBC. These volunteering breeders will assist this committee in breed-specific inquiries, reported breeding problems, and questions. Currently the committee is experiencing a growing number of requests from novice breeders for assistance in solving a multitude of problems. We have experienced a number of breeder/buyer disputes, where the breeder involved asks the committee for advice on contracts, health guarantees, and vaccination schedules. While we do not want to discourage these request for help, we do need to refer them out of TICA's Feline Welfare committee and to the private-sector consultants/breeders. The selection process will be solicited by members of the committee on an one-to-one basis. Whenever possible, the inquiring party will be referred to one or two breeders in that particular breed. These mentoring breeders will be better able to answer their breed-specific questions and offer breed-specific resources, such as breed clubs and newsletter.

7. The New TICA Breeder Resource Guide: The committee will be developing a packet of information to assist novice breeders. This packet will be compiled by the committee and offered for sale by the TICA Executive office. The packet development will be the next major project of the Feline Welfare committee. The committee is meeting this Friday evening to begin planning the "New TICA Breeder Resource Guide." It is hoped that this guide will be instrumental in helping novice breeders get off to a good start. The guide will be an ounce of prevention. This guide will also demonstrate to anti-breeding groups our commitment to responsibly breeding registered felines.

8. The Feline Infectious Disease Brochure has been placed on the TICA home page. Due to printing costs, the committee recommends that we leave the brochure up on the home page for now in lieu of printing it for dispersment at shows.

9. The complaints are being successfully handled, most of them successfully resolved. We have been forwarded a few complaints upon which CFA has already taken action. These involve forgery of health certificates and the shipping of compromised kittens. I would like to receive TICA legal advice on what is the best way for TICA to proceed on these cases. The one case that comes to mind does involve a breeder who utilizes the TICA registry.

10. The "Questions About Neutering and Spaying Your Cat" brochure will need review and some possible changes, especially in regards to the comments regarding "cat licensing." This rewrite will be given to the committee for consideration. I ask that no more be printed until we have had time to review it.

RESA BAUER-DEMEYERE, Chair

Report of Activities: Subject to some apparent reticence on behalf of some of the members of the Committee with respect to participating in the projects which were outlined by the Board at the Semi-Annual meeting, I submit herewith my report for the Annual Meeting.

First, we were asked to consider an alternative to the way license fees and insurance costs are charged equally to all clubs in all regions. We were provided with two comparisons which showed various facts relative to the regions, clubs, entries, etc. Unfortunately, the two sheets proved not to be comparable as the regions were re-aligned in the interim and the numbers all changed with respect to area, clubs and members. The Committee will need another spread sheet for last show year which can be used to compare the data of the 94-95 show year. In addition, the figures sent will need to be expanded to include the number of clubs and the number of shows, membership by club and entries by shows. In this way, a more realistic case can be made for the equitable spreading of the various costs.

We have some thoughts, to be considered on an over-all basis, from Vickie Fisher, which are appended to and made a part of this report. She deals in a very realistic fashion with the Awards Fees and License Fees -- from the standpoint of increasing TICA's membership. She also considers the fact that she feels that TICA is undercapitalized in its present stage of development; therefore, it is difficult to subsidize rapid development.

A thought for covering judges against mishaps in the judging ring as well as to and from judging assignments--something which is sorely lacking in our insurance coverage. It is my suggestion that Hugh Price receive the copies of the policies and be permitted to pursue and in depth study of the matter.

The Committee members appreciate the monthly statements of financial activity which are being mailed from the Executive Office. We are hopeful that these will continue in the future. I also feel that the Committee, which has not been able to accomplish much since its inception, would certainly be able to do a great deal more with the proper encouragement from the Board of Directors and the Executive Office as time goes on. New ideas and procedures always take a while before they can be implemented; however, I feel that there is real merit to having a Finance Committee for Budgetary and Financial Planning purposes.

Finance is the life blood of an organization and I feel that more resources and effort should be directed to this purpose. This is particularly true of TICA is to survive and flourish as a well-run business.

BILL BECKER, Chair

Conceptual Recommendations - Awards/License Fees

It seems to me that in order to reduce the absolute, overall level of fees to all the clubs, the obvious solution is to increase TICA's membership, the number of clubs holding shows, and the number of entries per show. While that sounds simple, we all know that it is much "easier said than done." I think that TICA is in an awkward stage - perhaps a little undercapitalized to be able to subsidize rapid development. Therefore, it also seems to me that the organization's ability to impact the fee structure in a really significant way is also limited at this time. What is important is that whatever is done is done towards helping develop and encourage the growth of the organization.

AWARDS FEES: Currently, awards fees are barely covering awards program expenses. My only comment might be that we should look at the cost/benefit of advertising in CWI, at least at the level we are; that cost being \$1,000 more than CATS Magazine, which I suspect has wider circulation. "Scoring Support" may incur efficiencies that bring overall cost in that category down; but increased volume (hopefully) may keep it at a constant level.

I would suggest consideration be given to "minimums" and "caps" for the regional pro-rata. Any cost savings might be used to establish a minimum award rebate (say \$500). Alternatively, a cap on the rebate (assume \$2,000) might also help fund costs, with any excess going to reduce general awards fees. Applying this concept to Show Year 93/94, it would have taken approximately \$1,050 in cost savings to give all regions a minimum of \$500. The Northwest Region would have been capped at \$2,000; \$55 would have been used to offset the expense reduction. For 94/95, cost reductions would have had to be \$1,096 to give all regions at least \$500; no region would have been capped under the \$2,000 scenario. (With the breakup of the regions in 94/95, perhaps an appropriate cap

is \$1,500. Even with this scenario, no regions is capped in 94/95, although Mid Atlantic, Mid Pacific, Northwest, and South Central come close.) this proposal is not intended to be punitive to the large regions; the plan recognizes that the cost for regional awards recognition is about the same, no matter how large the population or activity in a region. It encourages and helps the underdeveloped regions to grow.

LICENSE FEES: As to the license fees, I couldn't recommend an overall reduction at this time - it doesn't appear the budget could stand it. Perhaps some relief could be given to smaller shows through a different assessment mechanism. Instead of a per ring charge, we might consider a per entry charge. for 93/94 and 94/95, the average entries per show were approximately 150. The average rings for a two-day show were 10. At the current fee of \$15/ring, a club would pay \$150. If the charge were \$1.00/entry (or 50 cents/entry/day), TICA would still collect \$150 from an average show. If, however, entries were low, the fee would be less; if entries are greater, the fee is obviously more. while this gives the smaller shows a break, it also has a regional impact as well. The smaller regions are supported for growth through a reduced fee.

VICKIE FISHER, Member

MATTERS RELATING TO SPECIFIC LOCATIONS:

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA: We are quite pleased to report some small progress in our opposition to restrictive legislation. Proposed legislation in Oakland which would mandate cat licensing was defeated at the end of May. Although we had almost no notice that this proposal was coming up for a vote, TICA members were present at the Oakland City Council meeting, which did have a good deal of influence of the defeat of the proposal. Mimi Cary, a member of the CFA Legislative Committee, was instrumental in organizing the opposition. We successfully worked across association boundaries and convinced the Oakland City Council that forty percent of cats are unowned. It is interesting to note that no dog fanciers were present at the meeting and that the City Council did pass mandatory dog licensing with increased fees at that meeting.

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA: TICA member David Zabel has been appointed to the Berkeley Humane Commission. Mimi Cary, a Berkeley Humane Commissioner, was instrumental in obtaining this appointment for Mr. Zabel, which effectively equalizes the balance of power between the animal rights proponents and the animal welfare proponents on the Berkeley Humane Commission. Ms. Cary was subsequently elected as Chair of the Berkeley Humane commission.

HOUSTON, TEXAS: Houston continues to be a problem with a proposed "Pet Store Ordinance" pending as of this date. This ordinance would deem anyone who owns an unaltered animal, fish, reptile or fowl for sale, barter, trade, gift, rental, or exhibition in Houston to be a pet store and require licensing. It also provided that veterinary records would not be confidential, spaying and neutering of almost all animals and mandatory inspections and licensing, among other things. Additionally, large fines are available for any failures to comply. This proposal is extremely restrictive and must be defeated in its entirety. The Houston Animal Welfare Coalition has been formed specifically to combat this ordinance. They need support from cat fanciers in the Houston area, especially as the various animal fanciers do not appear to be working together well. I would urge anyone in the Houston area to become involved in the HAWC.

TULSA, OKLAHOMA: Tulsa has a pending proposal which is apparently, quite similar to the San Mateo ordinance. In other words, mandatory altering of all animals. Information is slim as of this writing.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS-APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS: It is respectfully requested that the board appoint Nancy Welch to this committee. Although Ms. Welch was submitted in the original request for appointments, it appears she was inadvertently omitted from the list of appointees.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS: It is imperative that we educate the public about the difference between "Animal Rights" and "Animal Welfare." A brochure has been prepared and has been made available to anyone upon request, entitled "Animal Rights vs. Animal Welfare - Why Cat Fanciers Support Animal Welfare, Not Animal Rights." A copy of the text is attached for your ease in reference (the brochure being designed to fit on a single sheet of paper, folded in the middle). Note that no individual or organization has been indicated as producing this brochure. A copy of several brochures issued by CFA, "Pedigreed Cats Face Extinction", "Why Not Coercive Legislation?" and "A Guide to Word Usage in the World of Animal Activism" are also attached for your reference.

TICA must have some official publication(s) along these lines which should be made available to clubs and members for a small fee or alternatively, CFA could be contacted regarding license of their materials. A discussion at this meeting is requested regarding this goal. The committee believes that perhaps the best way to accomplish this goal would be with two brochures; one which is brief and very easy to read, thereby catching the reader's

attention, and one which is very detailed, for individuals who are either likely to read detailed information or whose interest was sparked by the first either likely to read detailed information or whose interest was sparked by the first brochure. An information sheet on how to offer the brochures could also be provided.

INFORMATION REGARDING PENDING LEGISLATION: Many times when an item of legislation is pending, only very short notice is provided. Thus, the committee is continuing to work on refining a "telephone tree" which can be activated upon learning of such pending legislation (for example, we only learned of the pending Oakland licensing matter a few days prior to the City Council Meeting). It is anticipated that the "telephone tree" will be able to be activated by zip code, in order to quickly reach local members who could appear at a meeting on short notice, as it has become quite clear that the physical presence of opponents to a given item of legislation is quite effective. Additionally, it is anticipated that such local members would be provided with specific information which could be presented by them at any meeting.

BUDGET: It is requested that the Legislative Committee be allowed a small budget to cover items such as copying and postage. The committee requests an allocation of \$500 per year.

OTHER MATTERS: It is anticipated that further developments will have occurred by the time of the annual meeting, and that the Chair will supplement this report.

LAURIE SCHIFF, Chair

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank the Board of Directors for appointing Carlyn Bone to MAC.

There seems to be some misunderstandings concerning the objectives of MAC. I call your attention to Article VIII-H of Standing Rules to the By Laws. MAC is: "To act as a clearinghouse and problem solving agency to members, especially in the areas of new shows and new members; to work with other committees as necessary to facilitate good relations between members and between members and the Board of Directors."

By not having a law degree, I can only interpret the description to mean: (1) MAC is to act as a go between for problems between members, (2) MAC is to be a buffer between new clubs, new shows and new members concerning any problems they encounter, and (3) MAC is to be a platform for addressing problems that clubs and/or members may have that should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors.

MAC is NOT a committee that is responsible for the recruitment of new members. This is the responsibility of the ENTIRE membership. We will certainly lend support and pass along ideas and suggestions that will help increase membership, show counts, TICA and club profitability. I reiterate, MAC is here for the members... we deal in "people problems."

One of our MAC members, Nancy Welch, has a suggestion that is viable. Since Show Rule 3.19 was rescinded, there is a void that could be filled and possibly enhance a club's treasury. At one time, there was a fee for listing and showing a non-registered cat in a TICA show. A fee of \$5.00 could be assessed for an unregistered cat, which could be listed as "pending" in the catalog. Any points gained by the cat would not be counted unless the cat were subsequently registered in TICA. This could gain TICA new registrations, possibly a new member, and the club some extra income.

Nancy also has a suggestion concerning the procurement of new members, with new catteries and new cat/kitten registrations. MAC proposes that the Board take under advisement the possibility of creating a one time fee category consisting of: a one year TICA membership, registration of a NEW cattery, and registration of cat(s)/litter(s) at a one-time substantially reduced cost (all inclusive) for any new member. Example for an average new member: Regular Membership for one year = \$25.00, Cattery Registration = \$50.00, Registration of cat/kitten (average of two cats) = \$14.00, and one litter = \$7.00 --total cost to a new cattery is \$96.00. We suggest this be priced at \$75.00, which would be a 22% reduction, and available to NEW members only. This in my estimation would be sufficient inducement to attract new members, especially those that have paid listing fees.

One of our prior members, Leigh Polli, submitted a Show Management package that MAC considers worthy of the Board's attention. It contains information and check sheets that are crucial to any club's success. We recommend that the Management Package (with any necessary updating), be sent out with the first show package of the new show year mailed to each new or existing club. Ms. Polli has given us permission to use all or any part of the material that is deemed helpful. A copy of this material has been included with this report.

MAC has received many inquiries concerning Breed Committee makeup. There seems to be a lot of confusion as to who does and does not belong to certain Breed Committees. We request clarification regarding the delay in implementing the re-balloting necessary for some of the Breed Committees. We also receive requests and/or complaints regarding the voting eligibility for Breed Committees. This is a very grey area on the Application Forms and refinement is necessary. It does not clarify what is actually necessary to be able to vote. Members assume that because they have indicated a particular breed(s) on their application, that it entitles them to vote. It must be made clear that litter registration/showing are prerequisites to voting, and any fees necessary.

MANNY LEVINE, Chair

These are some of my thoughts for the Membership Affairs Committee.

- 1) I would like to see the name changed to either Membership Awareness Committee or Membership Action Committee. The word "Affairs" in my opinion, give the impression that the committee shouldn't be taken seriously. There is always much snickering when I tell people that I'm a member of TICA's Membership Affairs Committee.
- 2) I would also like to see the MAC take a more active role in getting new members for TICA, getting new clubs formed, getting more entries for TICA shows, getting more cats and catteries registered.
- 3) Suggestion for getting more cats registered. With the membership voting to rescind Show Rule 3.19 about cats having to registered in TICA to be shown, I would like to suggest that TICA go back to the Listing Fee. Change the fee to \$5.00. Include certificates in the show supplies that would allow an exhibitor to claim the \$5.00 against registering the cat within 30 days after the show in which the cat was shown as "pending". The certificate would have to be signed by both the entry clerk and the master clerk, attesting to the fact that the cat was not registered at the time of the show and that no registration number was listed in the catalog for the cat. If the exhibitor decided not to register the cat, then TICA has made \$5.00.
- 4) When I first joined TICA and registered my cattery in 1986, there was a new member incentive. I was able to register my cattery and get my first year's membership for I believe it was \$40, a savings over the cost of these items if done separately. I would like to see something like this done again for say a year to encourage new members.
- 5) I would also like to see a package of sorts for new members. Package would consist of Cattery registration, one year's membership dues, and a litter registration for a set fee that would be less than the individual total of these items. This would be for new people only, new catteries, etc.

I would like to see more direction from the Board as to our function. A lot of the members in my region are loathe to tell a fellow exhibitor, club member, friend, of problems they may be having with another exhibitor, etc. They would rather discuss this with the Regional Director. I would rather see this committee concentrate on getting TICA's membership boosted, helping clubs with ideas for shows, possibly rewriting the various TICA publications for Show Manager, Entry Clerk, maybe writing a piece on how to have a successful show, budgeting, etc. We have a check list that we developed and use in a few of the clubs in the Seattle area. This check list gives important phone numbers, like for the Lions Club for cages, the Latte Cart (a must for a Seattle show), various other contacts; a list of what the show manager needs to make sure is done - either does themselves or assigns out. This list has been very successful. I would suggest that some of these things be included in a New Club packet that is sent to all newly licensed clubs free of charge and could be sent to older clubs requesting the information for a reasonable nominal fee to cover the copying costs.

I would like to see a New Member Welcome packet distributed to all new TICA members. This packet could contain a Welcome letter, a list of clubs in their area with a contact name and phone number, some basic information about TICA and TICA policies with information on how and where to purchase a complete set of the Show rules, bylaws and Registration Rules, a current litter registration form, household pet registration form, etc. Again, this packet could be requested from current members for a reasonable nominal fee to cover the copying costs.

Nancy Welch, Committee Member

The Board of Directors has asked for a listing of International translations of Show Rules, Standards, By-Laws etc. completed world wide. The following information is available to date.

SOUTHERN EUROPE: Regional Director, ALINE NOEL, FRANCE

DEPUTY DIRECTORS - OLGA DENTICO SETA, ITALY, JOAO REISINHO, PORTUGAL & SPAIN
FOREIGN AFFAIRS - MASSIMO PICARDELLO, ITALY, PASCALE PORTELAS, FRANCE.

Mrs. Aline Noel has advised me that this time her Region stands as listed.

France - Show Rules and Standards completed; By-Laws in progress.

Italy - Everything required, translated and available.

Portugal - Everything completed except the Standards which will be completed shortly.

Spain - Nothing translated at this time. The Deputy Regional is waiting for more interest and more members.

NORTHERN EUROPE: Regional Director, JUAN DE LA CRUZ

Belgium - Most Belgians speak and read English, French, German and Dutch, the need for translations not vital at this time. (Advised by Mrs. Noel.)

Holland - No information available at this time.

Austria and Germany - The clerking manual is completed and the Show Rules translation is under way.

Germany and Austria do have some Standards available i.e. directly taken from TICA Standards.

Russia - No information available at this time.

ASIA: Regional Director, MRS. CHIEKO OHIRA

Everything translated with the possible exception Clerking Manual, which may be translated by now.

SOUTH AMERICA: Regional Director, MR. GEORGE CUELLAR, BRAZIL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS - MR. BERNADINO PAZ BLANCO, ARGENTINA

BRAZIL - Standards, Application for Recognition of Wins and the brochure "Are you looking for a Kitten" completed.

ARGENTINA - Judging Program completed, the translation on the Clerking Manual is under way.

MEXICO - MRS. GEORGIA MORGAN, USA

The Clerking Manual is completed. The remainder of the translations necessary in the are in the works.

GENERAL INTERNATIONAL NEWS UPDATE:

SOUTHERN EUROPE - Several new shows in France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Mrs. Noel's appointment of two new Deputy Regionals, Olga Dentico-Seta in Italy and Joao Reisinho in Portugal has been beneficial to the region and has allowed many new people to become involved and active in TICA.

NORTHERN EUROPE - The new Blue Danube Cat Club has two shows planned for next year and will work in conjunction with the Turin, Italy group to have their shows one after the other. In September, it is a possibility that the German Tica Club will have their show the weekend after Vienna. These clubs will be jointly advertising their shows in order to attract American exhibitors.

JAPAN - The steady rate of growth of TICA makes Japan a very successful region.

SOUTH AMERICA - There are new clubs in both Brazil and Argentina and Peru now has a new club.

Congratulations to our new country.

MEXICO - The Monterrey Cat Club has established a clinic and a holding facility. To date approximately 269 cats and kittens have been rescued, given necessary shots and medical care and have been placed in new homes. Congratulations to Monterrey.

A list of recommendations for this committee has been forwarded to the committee's Board Liaison, Mrs. Connie Webb.

TICA is experiencing a steady growth rate, internationally, both in clubs and members. This rate should continue for several years.

It has come to my attention, courtesy, Mr. Kurt Vlach of the Blue Danube Cat Club, Vienna, Austria, that there are several cat fanciers in Slovenia that are interested in TICA. Mr. Vlach notified Mr. Juan de la Cruz immediately and Mr. Vlach was advised to be a liaison to the Slovenian group. He has already sent them all the material needed to register their cats and catteries in TICA. Mr. Vlach advised me that Slovenia was once a part of the Austrian - Hungarian Empire and the people do speak German. Further, that the country is only 250 miles from Vienna. It would then make sense that if and when this country becomes a part of TICA's International family, it should be placed in the Europe-North Region.

Since these people now are FIFE members, it would take some time for TICA to be established. But the group will be traveling to Vienna and other TICA shows to become familiar with TICA shows and judging.

PATRICIA A. HARDING, Chair

Ideas for Shelters:

Identify shelter(s) to work with as a club or individually.

Give space at your shows and announce often that they are there.

Ask the shelter for list of needed items.

Work with shelters to evaluate their adoption policy. For example, try not to place very young kittens in homes with very young children. Look at their application forms and see if they need re-typing and cut and paste pictures on them and make copies. Take pictures to attach to pet information sheets.

Provide articles praising the virtues of the older cat to promote adoptions and request they bring older cats and not just kittens when they come to shows.

Most shelters offer a warm, clean, safe environment and food and water but little else. We have started going to the shelter and grooming.

Clipping nails, bathing, cutting out mats etc.

Check for your breed and others. We have placed a few Maine Coons with people calling that cannot afford the price.

If they have rooms where the cats "hang out" provide a turbo scratcher and maintain it. Add catnip.

Look through all the "stuff" you buy at shows that are now in your closet or attic.

.ADOPT A HHP TO SHOW ALONG WITH YOUR BREED. (WHAT'S ONE MORE?)

Promoting Adoptions:

Hire a "user friendly" judge who would be willing to spend extra time talking up our HHP Program. Encouraging HHP exhibitors to consider entering the HHP judging program. Or developing a special HHP Congress for future shows.

Emphasize the HHPs that are at your show for adoption. Make an announcement that a judge will be talking about the cats soon with stores of dramatic rescues, their virtues, and desired type of home. This could be in a ring or in the area set aside for these cats. A history of each cat should be supplied to your judge. Allow the shelter workers time to talk about their work and rescue efforts. Give HHP exhibitors a chance to talk about rehabilitation and showing.

Make an announcement or ring a bell each time a cat/kitten is adopted and have a round of applause.

New Exhibitors:

The Household Pet Standing Committee is working on a packet that will include, registration forms, New Exhibitor Guide, show calendar, club member contact. This information should be given to the shelters and to people adopting at your show.

TICA Initiatives:

Explore Breed rescue programs like the AKA.

Look into identification chips and scanning technology. This would allow breeders to be notified if a cat or kitten they sell or place ever ends up in a shelter.

Sponsor an Internet page. How to show your cat, with registration forms which could be E-Mail to TICA. Entry forms which could be E-Mailed to the entry clerk etc. Show calendar and directions to show hall would bring in spectators. Clubs could take pictures with a digital camera and write up bios on animals for adoptions or the shelters could. It could be in various directories: Animal Rights, Cats, Adoptions etc. There are numerous exhibitors that are "Internet Techies" that could expand on this idea.

TICA'S NEWEST AWARD

H - Household Pets - Adoptions

O - Opt for Life

N - Neuter/Spay

O - Over Population

R - Rescue

S - Service in Education

HONORS will be awarded to the TICA club that contributes the most to the welfare of the HHPs and the TICA HHP judging program. The Criteria follows:

1. Promoting the adoption and rescue of cats.
2. Continued educational programs to the community on the care, rescue and neuter/spaying.
3. Assisting area shelters.
4. Encouraging new HHP judges.
5. Sponsoring HHP Congresses.
6. Highlighting HHPs at shows in exhibition and adoption.
7. Providing information packets for spectators on registering their HHPs, future shows and guides to showing their own HHPs.

We recommend that TICA donate \$1,000 to the winning club's shelter or Shows can run 50-50s to raise money and TICA could match up to a certain portion. This would give the HHP Committee funds to make contributions to groups working for the welfare of cats.

Candidates will be decided by vote of the HHP Committee members. Clubs should submit resumes of activities for the past show year to the HHP Committee Chair. Submission should be made no later than 45 days following the close of the show season. The Committee Chair will then copy the Committee and votes will be counted by the Committee Chair no later than July 30th. Presentation will be made at the TICA Annual Awards Banquet.

PATTI ANDREWS, Chair

LETTER FROM JILL D. MELLEN, Ph.D., Conservation Research Coordinator, Metro Washington Park Zoo to Feline Welfare Standing Committee Chair:

Thank you for sending me the information on the increasing variety of domestic X wild cat crosses that seem to be gaining popularity among cat fanciers. I was unaware of the substantial increase in the number of felid species involved in these hybridization attempts and their increasing popularity. You asked for my opinion on this issue. Frankly, I'm appalled at this trend.

As co-chair of the American Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Felid Taxon Advisory Group, it is my job to facilitate the conservation of wild felids through education and through the captive propagation of endangered cats. I think most people are aware of some of the causes for the dramatic decline of wild populations of felids: hunting and loss of habitat. Other reasons for their decline include collection for the pet trade and hybridization with domestic cats. The primary reason for endangerment of the European wildcat and the Scottish wildcat is hybridization with domestic cats, i.e., with each of these sub-species, their wild genes are being diluted when they hybridize with free-ranging domestics. These hybrids further compete with the true sub-species representatives, accelerating the spiral to extinction. This is especially relevant to one article you set me on pixie-bob (domestic X bobcat cross). The "breed" is depicted as a "natural hybridization" which is an incorrect label. Domestic cats were "introduced" into North America by humans and so are not a naturally occurring species. Thus, the occasional bobcat x domestic cat cross that may occur in rural areas is no way "natural," but instead is a very real cause of population decline in some species.

I read in a number of articles that the goal of these crosses is to produce a cat that is wild in appearance, but domestic in temperament. While I think most cat lovers admire the look of wild felids, I'm very concerned about this selfish need to "own" this look. My concern is for both the well-being of the individual wild felids that are used for these hybridizations as well as the impact on the populations of wild cats. With regard to the well-being of the individuals, it appears that there is a perceived need to breed these hybrids back to the wild cat because of sterile F1 males or to somehow "rejuvenate" the wild look. I question whether these individual wild cats are housed adequately. The American Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) provides standards for small cats (attached) that dictate a substantial amount of room in which to maintain wild cats as well as expensive and complex dietary requirements. Do you have a sense for whether these requirements are being met for the leopard cats, servals, bobcats, Geoffrey's cats, etc. that are being used? These guidelines have been shared with the United State Department of Agriculture. Also, I would hope that these wild cats were legally obtained (as opposed to illegally-obtained, wild-caught animals) and the owners have the appropriate permits to hold these wild animals.

With regard to populations of wild cats in captivity, my greatest concern about these hybridizations is the apparent total disregard for what a species is all about. Each of these species of cat evolved over thousands of years, each to its own niche in nature. I think it is so presumptuous of humans to want to "mix and match" the genes of these beautiful cats in an attempt to acquire "a domestic temperament with the . . . appearance of the wild leopard" and by doing so diluting the wild genes that it took nature thousands of years to create. Captive breeding programs in zoos involve the creation of breeding strategies designed to maintain self-sustaining populations of endangered species. Every pairing is designed to minimize the average inbreeding coefficient of the population and to equalize the genetic representation of each animals. These captive populations serve as a kind of biological (rather than biblical) Noah's ark. The potential exists in some cases to reintroduce these animals back into the wild. since we don't know which genes are necessary for survival in the wild, it is important to minimize the loss of genetic diversity in our captive breeding programs. Again, in my opinion, the hybridization of wild cat species to domestic cats serves only to dilute an already small gene pool of captive wild cats. It does nothing to enhance the conservation of endangered cats, but instead supports the further loss of genetic material.

For my Ph.D. dissertation, I spent hundreds of hours studying the behavior of 20 species of small cats in captivity, including domestic cats. One of the most surprising findings was the striking similarities between the wild cat species and the domestic cat in terms of scent marking, solitary, and social behaviors. I found that one of my best "guides" to the insight into wild cats was my own domestic tabby cat at home. I find it interesting that cat fanciers seem so taken with exotic cats when, in fact, the domestic cat already shares so many of the same traits as its wild counterparts. Absent in the domestics though are the undesirable "shyness," aggressiveness, and the pervasive scent marking.

I urge The International Cat Association to reconsider its support of wild x domestic cat "breeds."

Jill D. Mellen, Ph.D., Conservation Research Coordinator

cc: Laura Friis, BC Environment, Victoria
Dr. David Wildt, Co-Chair of the AZA Felid Taxon Advisory Group
Peter Jackson, Chair of the IUCN Cat Specialist Group

Total Production Cost Volumes 17-2, 17-3, 17-4

\$15,238.70

Income

\$ 4,306.31

Net production cost -- 3 issues

\$10,932.39

Net production cost per issue (averaged over 3 issues)

\$ 3,644.13

Postage

\$ 8,672.81

Editor's Fee

\$ 3,000.00

Total Net Cost

\$22,605.20

Cost per issue

\$ 7,535.07

NOTE: The cost of postage is very close to equaling the cost of production!

Thank you for your confidence over the past four years. I have done my best to make the TICA TREND a product of which the Association could be proud. I wish to express my gratitude once more to Wendy Klamm, who showed us we could have our newsletter in a magazine format.

This will be my final report on the TREND. I will complete the October/November issue per our contract. Subsequent issues will be produced by a new (as yet unnamed) editor.

Leslie and I have worked diligently over the past year to clean up the mailing list. I think it is near perfect. Most of the inquiries I receive from members who have not received their TREND are from people who have moved. Do we have two data bases? Is the mailing list **not** generated from the membership list?

I also get an occasional request for back issues from people who have failed to renew their membership. I suggest these people pay for back issues, if these issues are available. I have generally kept 12 on hand for members whose TREND did not arrive for one reason or another.

Your package contains a report based on the survey that ran in the TREND several months ago. Please bear in mind that the response to this survey was about two per cent of the membership (50 responses from 3,000 members) and give it the weight it deserves.

ALICE RHEA, TICA TREND Editor

OVERVIEW: I designed the survey to provide a variety of easy to answer questions, giving many choices in some cases and options to comment on others. The survey was not intended to answer all the questions the Board may have regarding the future of the TREND. Rather, it is hoped that the survey will give a reasonable indication of the feelings of the TICA members. The attached four pages of summary results will tell the story. I found the information very interesting and informative and, also in some instances, quite surprising. Based upon this survey, I believe we can improve the TREND by solving identified problems and giving our members a TREND they want and one which TICA can afford to produce.

COMMENTS: Clearly, the respondents want Show Results. In addition to the scoring of the survey questions which point up the desire for the Show Results, the comments section at the bottom of each survey questionnaire is filled with sometimes angry remarks regarding having removed the Show Results. (I will bring the entire file of returned surveys for the Board's perusal at the meeting.)

The most interesting and surprising results are those which address paying for the TREND. By a 3 to 1 majority, the respondents are willing to pay more to receive a larger and better TREND. Also, by more than 2 to 1, respondents are willing to pay an additional \$12/year to receive an "Exhibitor Edition" (insert to the Regular TREND) with up-to-date show results.

SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND COST EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TREND: Raise the membership dues to \$35. Increase the size of the TREND to include Featured Breed articles with the attendant ads, a medical article, and feline legislation information and/or general information article with each issue. Print the Show Results on light weight paper inserting them into the centerfold of the TREND. It is questionable whether this increased price would be a detriment to membership especially by the countries outside the US. It also doesn't address the cost of additional postage for a larger TREND.

OR

Keep the membership price at \$25. Change the format of the TREND to include Featured Breed articles with the attendant ads, a medical article, and feline legislation information and/or general information article with each issue. Do not include the Show Results. Instead, charge \$40 for the TREND Exhibitor Edition which would include an insert in the middle of the TREND with the Show Results. These Results should be completely reformatted to be a readable stand alone piece. On alternate months in which no TREND is sent, then these Results would be sent out by a separate mailing. This scheme has the advantage of getting up-to-date Show Results to those people who are willing to pay for them while keeping the cost of membership to its present price.

In either case...Print the Show Results on ElectroBrite paper or similar paper which reduces the weight by 1/3 and reformat the Results to look like a "stand alone" piece.

Reduce the size of all show advertising (except for the inside and back covers) to a maximum of a 1/2 page and the price of the ads at \$99 per 1/2 page ad. Not only will it make the TREND more interesting to read by adding several additional pages for the use of articles, it will actually look more professional to have smaller ads. Several graphics people, who were shown the TREND asking for their input, all suggested that the show ads were the poorest part of the magazine, being generally unprofessional looking and wasting valuable space. Everyone of them also said that the ads were priced too low to make any kind of economic sense. Add a Breeder Listing section like the ads found in Cat Fancy along with the usual 1/6 to 1/8 page breeder ads. (The present cost of production of one page in the TREND is approximately \$167). The inside and outside cover ads should also be increased in price. The Annual Show should receive one full back page ad "gratis" (if they provide their own separations) each year as small compensation for the large cost incurred putting on the Annual.

Consider alternate ways to ship the TREND. I explored the market here in Seattle with the idea that the TREND would continue to be published here. There are companies which work with foreign companies to drop-ship magazines to Europe, Japan, etc, for mailing. Additionally, trucking the TREND from the US to Canada could be done from Seattle saving postage and time. The postal rates change virtually yearly. We may find that with the most recent change, there is a more effective way to ship the TREND.

Increase postage costs to those areas outside the US to which 1st class postage (or air printed matter postage) is necessary in order to receive the TREND in a timely manner. It is unfair to expect the US members to pay for the additional cost of postage for the rest of the TICA members. The increased postage paid by those outside Canada and the US which was charged for the TREND over a year ago still does not cover the cost of their mailing. US members pay the same postage rate as the Canadians and only \$5 less for 3rd class postage than the Europeans, Japanese and South Americans presently pay for 1st class service. Stated another way, if US members want to receive their TREND by first class mail, it will cost them \$32 for the same service extended to Canadian members for \$25 and all the other members for \$30. Several times I have been contacted by European members regarding something in the TREND only a few days after the TREND has been mailed, yet many of our US members wait up to 4-5 weeks to receive their TREND. Additionally, all mailings outside the US require envelopes which is an additional cost not only in the price of the envelopes, but in the stuffing and sealing of the envelopes. (Alternates to the envelopes are slip cases and plastic packaging both of which are lighter in weight and are machine driven. However, these could only be implemented if production was done in a city large enough to have these facilities.)

Print the Judge's List/List of TICA officers and the information From the Executive Office in alternate issues, printing the Clerk's list no more than twice a year. An errata column for changes in Judges'/Regional Directors' addresses and phone numbers could be added when necessary.

SUMMARY: The bottom line is that members want the TREND and they want it to be bigger and better and they are willing to pay for it. Several mentioned the quality of the CFA Almanac as a standard. Several mentioned that they like the TREND format and they appreciate the job that Alice Rhea has done transforming it into a real magazine format with color cover. Times change and so do interests of those in the fancy. We have seen from the results of the survey that breeders and exhibitors are concerned for health issues and feline legislation. We owe it to our membership to keep them well informed. The TREND can do that and still be a most cost effective publication by increasing the price of the advertising and reducing the size of the ads, adding Featured Breed articles with the corresponding breeder ads, reducing slightly the font size of the TREND and reformatting the Show Results, printing them on lighter paper than the rest of the TREND...possibly printing an Exhibitor's Edition.

I hope that the survey results have been informative to the Board and that we can make good logical recommendations to the new TREND Editor in his/her new endeavor. We must ensure that the TREND is financially self sufficient; otherwise, TICA will never have the funds necessary to grow our association.

CONNIE ZIMMERMANN, Vice President

PROPOSAL FOR EVALUATION OF BREED STATUS

The questions of what represents an adequate gene pool for a breed and what is an acceptable level of reproductive fitness seem to come up on a regular basis within the cat fancy, often in response to anecdotal evidence that a particular breed or line is in trouble. However, there is very little data available to address these concerns. The goal of this project is to ascertain the reproductive status of our existing breeds. Such data could be used as a basis for preservation and management of these breeds as well as providing input to ensure health of newer developing breeds.

A minimum of 25-50 litters of each breed will be evaluated for causes of neonatal mortality. Breeders would be selected to provide as diverse a representation of the lineages within the breed as possible. Each litter enrolled in the study must be complete and partially cannibalized litters or litters with kittens lost to follow-up prior to four months of age would not be eligible. All non-surviving kittens are to be necropsied. If examined outside the study, a complete necropsy report must be available to determine cause of death and evidence of congenital anomalies. Alternatively, the breeder will be provided with packing materials and information for sending the remains to the investigator for evaluation and a report of such study will be provided back to the breeder.

After 50 litters of a given breed have been enrolled, additional litters may be included for monitoring potential recurrent problems and for achieving statistical significance. The number of litters included beyond the original 50 may vary from breed to breed depending upon litter size and the results of the initial phase of the study.

To determine degree of inbreeding and its potential effects on reproductive fitness, blood samples or tissues for DNA analysis will be requested on 25 representatives of each breed. In many instances adequate samples will be obtainable from non-surviving kittens undergoing necropsy in conjunction with the mortality portion of the study. However, it may also be necessary to obtain blood samples or skin biopsies from adult cats in order to ensure a representative sample of the breed. This could be done in conjunction with other procedures such as neutering or spaying or may be done independently and is not considered dangerous for the cat.

Pedigrees will be required on all cats enrolled in any portion of the study. However, all identifying information will be kept confidential. Any data provided to the association or used for publication will be pooled and the sources of individual animals will not be divulged without the owner's consent.

This study will provide baseline data regarding reproduction in our present breeds. Although studies on kitten mortality have been done in the past, they have not been as complete and have not included the provision for molecular studies. The results of this study may be helpful in identifying problems in individual breeds and may also be of use to the fancy in determining need for augmenting existing gene pools. It could also be helpful in establishing requirements for acceptance of new breeds for championship status.